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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/736,844 Confirmation No. : 6085  
First Named Inventor : Nobuo ISHII  
Filed : December 17, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 2878  
Examiner : T. J. WALBERG  
Docket No. : 101249.53088US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Plasma Processing Apparatus

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This supplements the Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the above-identified application on April 19, 2004.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

English abstracts summarizing the disclosures of these Japanese publications, listed on the PTO-1449 as AB through AJ, are submitted herewith.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents and indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

Reference listed on the PTO-1449 as AF corresponds to U.S. Patent Nos. 6,622,650 and 6,823,816. Reference listed on the PTO-1449 as AG corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,091,045, which was cited in the Office Action, issued in the above-identified application on December 28, 2004.


The present Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 101249.53088US.

Respectfully submitted,

April 18, 2005

  
Jeffrey D. Sanok  
Registration No. 32,169

CROWELL & MORING LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844  
JDS:jl



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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)**

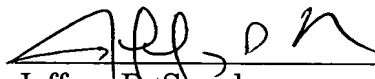
Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

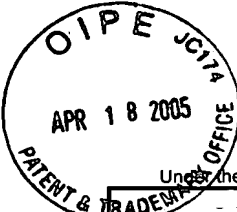
I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

April 18, 2005

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/736,844
		Filing Date	December 17, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Nobuo ISHII
		Art Unit	2878
Examiner Name	T. J. WALBERG		
Attorney Docket Number	101249.53088US		
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
	AA	US- 5,690,781		11-25-1997	YOSHIDA, et al.	
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
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		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> –Number <sup>4</sup> –Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	AB	JP 9232099	09-05-1997	HITACHI LTD., ET AL.		AB
	AC	JP 2000030897	01-28-2000	SUMITOMO METAL IND.		AB
	AD	JP 2003059919	02-28-2003	ULVAC CORP.		AB
	AE	JP 2003142457	05-16-2003	TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC CO., ET AL.		AB
	AF	JP 2001156004	06-08-2001	TOKYO ELECTRON LTD., ET AL.		AB
	AG	JP 10214823	08-11-1998	SUMITOMO METAL IND.		AB
	AH	JP 6104210	04-15-1994	HITACHI LTD.		AB
	AI	JP 2003038951	02-12-2003	SHIBAURA MECHATRONICS CORP.		AB
	AJ	JP 6037046	02-10-1994	HITACHI LTD.		AB

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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